International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples 2022: Xbox Ambassadors Share Their Stories

Community Fifthpaw Aug 9, 2022

Today is International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples! The wonderful art accompanying this blog was created in the traditional art style used by the Snoqualmie people by Bethany Fackrell. You can also find her on Instagram and Facebook.

Each piece of the art tells a different story. For example, the five circles towards the bottom represent the five clans that make up Snoqualmie as a tribe, as one community. And if there’s one thing Xbox Ambassadors understand well, it’s a sense of community.

In celebration of today, we asked Indigenous Ambassadors about the importance of representation in games and how it impacts their own experience being members of the gaming community.

Here are their stories in their own words:

LemonMintHookah

Assyrian

Assassin’s Creed has always been a great game, especially about characters from various places. I’m Assyrian and we are Indigenous. We don’t have a homeland because we fled the Middle East because of being Christian. Assassin’s Creed sticks with me because it’s always about this big world and your one character who is not welcomed anywhere and must prove to the people that he’s good for the community.

Bowser914 *(He/Him)*

Mayan

I think for me it was the fact that I am first generation Guatemalan-American and growing up I was always embarrassed to be an Indigenous person. Early on I started playing Age of Empires and realized that the Mayan Civilization was one of the best and it got me interested in learning more about my people. I ended up studying history and still love my AoE games.

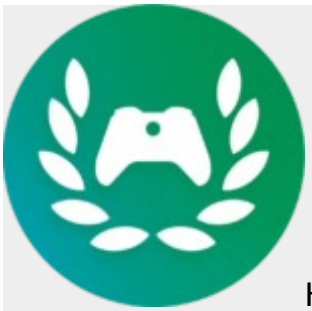
ESDYEFAR

New Zealand Māori. I have yet to see a game about my people. Fingers crossed

In my opinion, games feel more realistic with native people in their native country, with the gamer being able to experience a little bit of their native culture. For me, the Assassin’s Creed games come to mind. I like to see or experience different cultures throughout different eras when gaming. I don’t really have many stories about gaming communities, but I have played with many people from around the world and have enjoyed every moment.

Image: Ubisoft Montreal

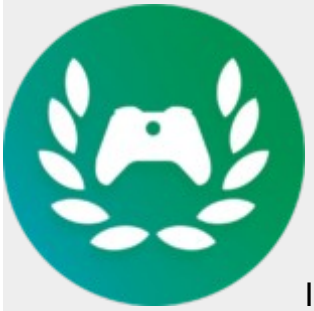
TheGreatLui5873 *(He/Him)*
Tohono O’odham Nation



How have games featuring Indigenous characters have impacted me a lot, especially when the game dives deep into the development of the character! When I was younger, I was always made fun of because of my Indigenous background! I have found that games that portray Indigenous characters have always taught me that it is okay to embrace where you come from, as it does as well with religions and ethnicities. There have not been many Indigenous gaming communities that I have come across but when I do, I always feel welcome and feel like my voice can be heard.

GOAT1596 *(He/Him)*

I am Ngarrindjeri which is an Aboriginal Indigenous group from the Murraylands area



I haven’t really seen that many games featuring Indigenous characters, but the games that do are very respectful and informative to people that are wanting to find out more about the groups. Additionally, all the gaming communities that I have taken part in were very respectful about me being Indigenous and treated me very well.

Thank you once again to everyone for sharing their stories this International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples! We appreciate every single one.